

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUSAKA 02461 181605Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 ACDA-07 OMB-01
TRSE-00 USIE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /086 W
-----084587 181608Z /41

O 181540Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6369
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 2461

E.O. 11652 GDS
TAGS: PINT RH
SUBJECT: IN REJECTING ELECTIONS IN RHODESIA, DAILY MAIL
EDITORIAL IS OUT OF STEP WITH GRZ POLICY.

SUMMARY: LEAD EDITORIAL WHICH GOES WELL BEYOND OFFICIAL
GRZ POLICY, ARGUES THAT BECAUSE PATRIOTIC FRONT IS
FIGHTING SMITH, ITS RIGHTS AND INTERESTED MUST BE INCLUDED
IN ANY RHODESIAN SOLUTION. THE CONCEPT OF FREE ELECTIONS
IS MISUIDED BECAUSE IT PROVIDES A MEANS BY WHICH MILITARILY
POWERLESS POLITICAL FIGURES UNDER SOUTH AFRICAN INFLUENCE
COULD SNATCH THE FUIRTS OF THE NATIONALISTS" STRUGGLE. END
SUMMARY.

1. AUGUST 18 ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL EDITORIAL ARGUES THAT FREE
ELECTIONS IN RHODESIA ARE NOT FEASIBLE. AS "INTERESTED
PARTIES, THE BRITISH AND AMERICANS ARE SEEKING A SOLUTION
FOR THE PHODESIAN PROBLEM. SINCE THEIR PROPOSALS ARE "NOW
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BEING CONSIDERED BY THE PARTIES CONCERNED IN EARNEST, IT IS
ALSO TIME THAT THE INTERESTS OF THE NATIONALISTS AND IN
THIS CASE THE PATRIOTIC FRONT ARE ALSO CONSIDERED IN EARNEST."
THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS HAVE FOR THEIR OJBECTIVE FREE
ELECTIONS THROUGH WHICH THE PEOPLE OF RHODESIA CAN ELECT A
GOVERNMENT OF THEIR CHOICE. EDITORIAL ASSERTS THAT MUZOREWA
AND SITHOLE ARE STOOGES OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN REGINE. THEY

ARE NOT ACTORS IN TLA POWER GAME BECAUSE THEY HAVE FAILED TO EXERT MILITARY PRESSURE ON SMITH. THE CONCEPT OF FREE ELECTIONS WOULD HAVE TO INCLUDE THEM AND "WHEN STOOGES LIKE MUZORWEA AND SITHOLE WIN ENOUGH SEATS TO FORCE EVEN A COALITION GOVERNMENT THEY WILL BE IN AS AGENTS OF SOUTH AFRICANS". FOR THE PATRIOTIC FRONT CADRES WHO HAVE BORNE THE BRUNT OF THIS WAR, THIS IS EXPECTING TOO MUCH. "WHATEVER THE VIEWS OF PRESIDENT CARTER AND PRIME MINISTER JAMES CALLAGHAN, THE REALITIES OF THE SITUATION IN RHODESIA ARE THAT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT HAVE PUT INTO THE WAR IN RHODESIA TOO MUCH OF THEIR BLOOD AND ROUGH WORK TO BE DENIED THE PRIZE OF THE WAR THROUGH SUCH IRRELEVANCIES AS THE SO-CALLED FREE ELECTIONS".

COMMENT: ALMOST CERTAINLY THIS EDITORIAL REFLECTS NEITHER OFFICIAL GRZ NOR PATRIOTIC FRONT POLICY. FROM PRESIDENT KAUNDA ON DOWN, ZAMBIAN OFFICIALS HAVE ARGUED THAT ZAMBIAN RECOGNITION OF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED AS A MANEUVER TO IMPOSE A GOVERNMENT ON AN INDEPENDENT ZAMBABWE. RATHER, THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE SHOULD BE FREE TO CHOOSE THEIR LEADERS. THE EDITORIAL EVEN GOES FURTHER THAN THE EXTREME BARGAINING POSITION ADVANCED BY THE PATRIOTIC FRONT. THE PF TO OUR KNOWLEDGE HAS NOT REJECTED ELECTIONS, RATHER IT HAS INSISTED THAT ANY ELECTIONS HELD SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT BY AN INTERIM GOVERNMENT UNDER ITS CONTROL. WE HAVE LEARNED THAT THE DAILY MAIL EDITOR ANTICIPATES A SHARP REPRIMAND
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FROM STATE HOUSE FOR THE CONTENTS OF THIS EDITORIAL WHICH HE WROTE.
LOW

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, ELECTIONS
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Review Event:
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Subject: IN REJECTING ELECTIONS IN RHODESIA, DAILY MAIL EDITORIAL IS OUT OF STEP WITH GRZ POLICY. SUMMARY: LEAD EDITORIAL WHICH GOES WELL BEYOND OFF
TAGS: PINT, SOPN, RH, ZA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5a0d8b58-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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